

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas
2 85th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2005
4

As Engrossed: H2/8/05
A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1234

5 By: Representative Bradford
6
7

8 **For An Act To Be Entitled**

9 AN ACT TO RESTRUCTURE THE ARKANSAS PSYCHOLOGY
10 BOARD; TO ESTABLISH A LICENSING BOARD FOR THE
11 REGULATION OF THE PRACTICE OF CLINICAL
12 PSYCHOTHERAPY; TO CREATE AN OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
13 TO COORDINATE THE OPERATIONS OF THE ARKANSAS
14 PSYCHOLOGY BOARD AND THE ARKANSAS BOARD OF
15 CLINICAL PSYCHOTHERAPY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
16

17 **Subtitle**

18 AN ACT TO REDEFINE AND REGULATE
19 PSYCHOLOGICAL EXAMINERS AS CLINICAL
20 PSYCHOTHERAPISTS.
21
22

23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
24

25 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 17-97-102(b), concerning levels of practice
26 of psychology, is amended to read as follows:

27 (b)(1)(A) Unless the context otherwise requires, ~~two (2) levels~~ one
28 (1) level of psychological practice ~~are~~ is defined for the purpose of this
29 chapter.

30 (B) ~~The levels are~~ level is to be known and ~~are~~ is
31 referred to as ~~“psychological examiner” and “psychologist”~~.

32 ~~(2)(A) A person practices as a “psychological examiner” within~~
33 ~~the meaning of this chapter when he or she holds himself or herself out to be~~
34 ~~a psychological examiner or renders to individuals or to the public for~~
35 ~~remuneration any service involving the practice of psychology.~~

36 ~~(B) Psychological examiners independently provide services~~



1 ~~such as interviewing or administering and interpreting tests of mental~~
2 ~~abilities, aptitudes, interests, and personality characteristics for the~~
3 ~~purposes of psychological evaluation to assist in the determination of~~
4 ~~educational or vocational selection, guidance, or placement.~~

5 ~~(C) Other than those psychological services listed in~~
6 ~~subdivision (b)(2)(B) of this section, the psychological examiner provides~~
7 ~~psychological services only under the supervision of a qualified~~
8 ~~psychologist.~~

9 ~~(3)(2)~~ A person practices as a "psychologist" within the meaning
10 of this chapter when he or she holds himself or herself out to be a
11 psychologist or renders to individuals or to the public for remuneration any
12 service involving the practice of psychology.

13
14 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 17-97-103(a), concerning exceptions to the
15 laws governing the practice of psychology, is amended to read as follows:

16 (a) Nothing in this chapter prevents:

17 (1) The teaching of psychology, or the conduct of psychological
18 research by licensed or unlicensed psychologists or other licensed or
19 unlicensed professionals under the laws of Arkansas, if the teaching or
20 research does not involve the delivery or supervision of direct services to
21 individuals who are themselves, rather than a third party, the intended
22 beneficiaries
23 of the services without regard to the source or extent of payment for
24 services rendered.

25 (2) The provision of expert testimony by psychologists who are
26 exempted by this chapter.

27 (3) Members of other professions licensed under the laws of
28 Arkansas from rendering services within the scope of practice as set out in
29 the statutes regulating their professional practices, if they do not
30 represent themselves to be psychologists or psychological examiners.

31 (4) Recognized members of the clergy from functioning in their
32 ministerial

33 capacities, if they do not represent themselves to be psychologists or
34 psychological examiners, or their services to be psychological services; ~~or~~

35 (5) Students of psychology, psychological interns, psychological
36 residents,

1 and others persons preparing for the profession of psychology from performing
2 as a part of their training the functions specified in § 17-97-102, but only
3 under qualified supervision; or

4 (6) A business entity owned and operated by an individual
5 licensed as a mental health provider other than a psychologist may continue
6 to use the title “psychology” or “psychological” if the mental health
7 practice of the individual:

8 (A) Is currently active; and

9 (B) Was established before December 31, 2004.

10
11 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code Title 17, Chapter 97, Subchapter 1 is amended
12 to read as follows:

13 17-97-106 Prior licensure.

14 (a)(1) A person who is licensed as a psychological examiner under §
15 17-97-204 as of the effective date of this section:

16 (A) Shall be deemed to have met all requirements for
17 licensure under this chapter; and

18 (B) May elect to continue to practice psychology
19 autonomously as a psychological examiner in areas such as interviewing or
20 administering and interpreting tests of mental abilities, aptitudes,
21 interests, and personality characteristics for the purposes of psychological
22 evaluation to assist in the determination of educational or vocational
23 selection, guidance, or placement.

24 (2) In the provision of psychological services other than those
25 included in subdivision (a)(1) of this section, a licensed psychological
26 examiner who elects to continue to practice psychology under this chapter may
27 provide such services only under the supervision of a licensed psychologist.

28 (3) The Arkansas Psychology Board shall apply through its rules
29 the qualifications of supervising psychologists and the restrictions and
30 reporting requirements of supervision in such a manner as to implement the
31 intent of this section without restricting the professional integrity of the
32 psychological examiner and psychologist or the ultimate responsibility of
33 the supervising psychologist.

34 (4) No individual other than an individual applying for renewal
35 of licensure shall be licensed as a psychological examiner under this chapter
36 after December 31, 2007.

1 (5) An individual who applies for licensure as a psychological
2 examiner between the effective date of this section and December 31, 2007
3 shall meet the same standards and requirements for licensure as applicants
4 for psychological examiner licensure under the rules of the board as they
5 existed before the effective date of this section.

6
7 SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 17-97-201(a) and (b) concerning creation
8 and membership of the Arkansas Psychology Board, are amended to read as
9 follows:

10 17-97-201 Creation - Members.

11 (a)(1) There is created the Arkansas Psychology Board ~~which shall~~
12 ~~consist of nine (9) members who~~ whose members shall be appointed by the
13 Governor for terms of five (5) years.

14 (2) The Governor shall appoint:

15 (A) One (1) academic psychologist engaged in full-time
16 teaching of psychology at the graduate level of an approved institute of
17 higher learning or holding an active faculty appointment in an American
18 Psychological Association approved pre or post doctoral internship program;

19 (B)(i) Four (4) practicing psychologists engaged in the
20 full-time practice of psychology with at least one (1) psychologist engaged
21 in the full-time, private practice of psychology.

22 (ii) The Governor shall ensure that the psychologist
23 members reflect a diversity of practice specialties, including but not
24 limited to, clinical psychology, counseling psychology, *health* psychology,
25 neuropsychology, and school psychology;

26 (C)~~(i) Two (2)~~ One (1) psychological examiners examiner
27 engaged in the full-time practice of psychology until a time when there are:

28 (a) Fewer than five (5) persons licensed as
29 psychological examiners; or

30 (b) Licensed psychological examiners willing
31 to serve.

32 (ii) The psychological examiner may not participate
33 in the examination of candidates seeking licensure as psychologists.

34 (D) ~~Two (2) persons~~ One (1) person who are is not actively
35 engaged in or retired from the practice of psychology who shall:

36 (i) Represent consumers of psychology services; and

1 ~~(ii) shall be~~ Shall be a voting ~~members~~ member at-
2 large.

3 (3)(A)(i) The academic psychologist, ~~the practicing~~
4 ~~psychologists,~~ and the ~~psychological examiner~~ practicing psychologist members
5 shall be appointed from a list of nominees provided by the Arkansas
6 Psychological Association, ~~the Arkansas Association of Masters in Psychology,~~
7 or from any other list with the signatures of at least twenty (20) licensed
8 psychologists ~~or psychological examiners~~ attached.

9 (ii) The psychological examiner member shall be
10 appointed from a list of nominees provided by the Arkansas Association of
11 Masters in Psychology or from any other list with the signatures of at least
12 twenty (20) licensed psychological examiners attached.

13 (B)(i) Each nomination shall be transmitted to the
14 Governor within twenty (20) days after a vacancy occurs.

15 (ii) The Governor may disregard the nominees whose
16 names were not transmitted prior to the expiration of the twenty-day period.

17 (C)(i) ~~Of the two (2) members~~ The member appointed
18 pursuant to subdivision (a)(2)~~(C)(D)~~ of this section, ~~one (1) member~~ shall
19 represent consumers, and ~~one (1) member shall be sixty (60) years of age or~~
20 ~~older and shall represent the elderly~~ shall be appointed from the state at
21 large, subject to confirmation by the Senate.

22 ~~(ii) Both shall be appointed from the state at~~
23 ~~large, subject to confirmation by the Senate.~~

24 ~~(iii) The two (2) positions may not be held by the~~
25 ~~same person.~~

26 (iv)(i) ~~Both~~ The member representing consumers of
27 psychology services shall be a full voting ~~members~~ member but shall not vote
28 on or participate in the administration or grading examinations of applicants
29 for licensure.

30 (D)(i) Any public member appointed under subdivision
31 (a)(2)(1)(D) of this section after July 28, 1995, ~~must~~ shall be an Arkansas
32 resident and ~~must~~ shall have resided in Arkansas for at least five (5) years
33 immediately preceding appointment.

34 (ii) Furthermore, the person ~~must~~ shall never have
35 been a psychologist or psychological examiner, an applicant or former
36 applicant for licensure as a psychologist or psychological examiner, a member

1 of another mental health profession, a member of a household that includes a
2 psychologist or psychological examiner, or otherwise have conflicts of
3 interest or the appearance of conflicts with his or her duties as a board
4 member.

5 (4)(A) Each psychologist and the psychological examiner
6 appointed to the board after July 28, 1995, ~~must~~ shall reside within the
7 State of Arkansas, hold a current valid license to practice, and ~~must~~ shall
8 have been licensed to practice psychology in Arkansas for at least five (5)
9 years immediately preceding his or her appointment to the board.

10 (B) At the time of the appointment, each such member ~~must~~
11 shall be free of any conflict of interest and the appearance of any conflict
12 with his or her duties as a member of the board.

13 (C) ~~To the extent possible, psychologists and~~
14 ~~psychological examiner board members shall be members or fellows of state or~~
15 ~~national professional organizations, such as the Arkansas Psychological~~
16 ~~Association, the Arkansas Association of Masters in Psychology, or the~~
17 ~~American Psychological Association. At the time of the appointment, each~~
18 ~~such member may not also be a member of another board charged with the~~
19 ~~responsibility of licensing mental health professionals in Arkansas.~~

20 (5)(A)(i) The Governor shall fill all vacancies on the board
21 within thirty (30) days after the vacancy occurs.

22 (ii) The Arkansas Psychological Association, the
23 Arkansas Association of Masters in Psychology, and other interested licensed
24 psychologists and psychological examiners as indicated in (a)(3)(A)(i) and
25 (ii) of this section shall transmit their nominees to the Governor no later
26 than (40) days prior to the expiration of board members' terms, and, at least
27 thirty (30) days before the expiration of the term of any board member, the
28 Governor shall appoint the person to replace the board member when the term
29 expires.

30 (B) ~~The Governor may disregard the nominees of any~~
31 ~~association which fails to transmit the names of the nominees at least forty~~
32 ~~(40) days prior to the expiration of the term of office. If an appointed~~
33 ~~board member fails to maintain or no longer meets the qualifications as~~
34 ~~outlined in this section for board membership or has plead guilty or nolo~~
35 ~~contendere to, or been found guilty of a felony by a court of competent~~
36 ~~jurisdiction, the board member shall immediately submit a letter of~~

1 resignation to the Governor.

2 (C) The Governor shall remove any member from the board if
3 he or she:

4 (i) Ceases to be qualified;

5 (ii) Fails to attend three (3) successive board
6 meetings without just cause as determined by the board;

7 (iii) Is found to be in violation of this chapter;

8 (iv) Pleads guilty or nolo contendere to, or is
9 found guilty of a felony or an unlawful act involving moral turpitude by a
10 court of competent jurisdiction; or

11 (v) Pleads guilty or nolo contendere to, or is found
12 guilty of malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasance in relation to his or her
13 board duties by a court of competent jurisdiction.

14 (b) All vacancies occurring on the board by reason of resignation or
15 otherwise vacated shall be filled by the Governor for the unexpired term and
16 for the professional members from the list of those qualified, within thirty
17 (30) days after the vacancy occurs.

18
19 SECTION 5. Arkansas Code § 17-97-202 is amended to add an additional
20 subsection to read as follows:

21 17-97-202. Organization and proceedings.

22 (a) The Arkansas Psychology Board shall meet and organize by electing
23 a chair, secretary, and treasurer.

24 (b)(1) ~~The board~~ Arkansas Psychology Board shall hold at least one (1)
25 regular meeting each year.

26 (2) Called meetings may be held at the discretion of the chair
27 or at the written request of any two (2) members of the ~~board~~ Arkansas
28 Psychology Board.

29 (c) A majority of the members of the ~~board~~ Arkansas Psychology Board
30 shall at all times constitute a quorum.

31 (d) The ~~board~~ Arkansas Psychology Board shall adopt a seal which ~~must~~
32 shall be affixed to all certificates issued by the board.

33 (e)(1) The chair and treasurer of the Arkansas Psychology Board shall
34 be members of the Joint Administrative Oversight and Budget Committee created
35 in § 17-107-202.

36 (2)(A) The membership of the Joint Administrative Oversight and

1 Budget Committee shall be composed of the chairs and treasurers of the:

2 (i) Arkansas Psychology Board; and

3 (ii) Arkansas Board of Clinical Psychotherapy.

4 (B) Ad hoc members without voting privileges shall be the
5 members of the administrative staff of the:

6 (i) Arkansas Psychology Board; and

7 (ii) Arkansas Board of Clinical Psychotherapy.

8 (3) The responsibilities of the Joint Administrative Oversight
9 and Budget Committee shall be to provide advice and recommendations to the
10 Arkansas Psychology Board and the Arkansas Board of Clinical Psychotherapy on
11 matters and concerns with regard to administrative and financial issues as
12 related to:

13 (i) The generation of income;

14 (ii) General operations; and

15 (iii) Expenditure of monies by the respective
16 boards.

17 (4) Personnel decisions and matters of the use of monies by both
18 the Arkansas Psychology Board and the Arkansas Board of Clinical
19 Psychotherapy shall be resolved within the committee.

20
21 SECTION 6. Arkansas Code § 17-97-301 is amended to read as follows:

22 17-97-301. Legislative intent.

23 (a) The General Assembly intends this section to require all
24 psychology service providers to conform to the licensing requirements of this
25 chapter and, by conforming, to protect the public's health and welfare by
26 ensuring competence in the delivery of those services.

27 ~~(a)~~(b) If any person shall practice or hold himself out to the public
28 as being engaged in the practice of psychology, such as clinical, consulting,
29 industrial, personnel, or counseling psychology and shall not then possess in
30 full force and virtue a valid license to practice as a licensed psychology
31 intern, psychological examiner, or psychologist under the provisions of this
32 chapter, he or she shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor.

33 ~~(b)~~(c) Upon conviction he or she shall be fined not less than one
34 hundred dollars (\$100) nor more than five hundred dollars (\$500).

35
36 SECTION 7. Arkansas Code § 17-97-302(b), concerning application and

1 qualifications as for licensure as a psychologist, is amended to read as
2 follows:

3 (b)(1) A candidate for license shall furnish the board with
4 satisfactory evidence that he or she;

5 (A) Is at least twenty-one (21) years of age and of good
6 moral character;

7 (B) Has received a doctoral degree in psychology from ~~an a~~
8 regionally accredited educational institution recognized by the board as
9 maintaining satisfactory standards at the time the degree was granted ~~or, in~~
10 ~~lieu of degree, a doctoral degree in a closely allied field, if it is the~~
11 ~~opinion of the board that the training required therefore is substantially~~
12 ~~similar;~~

13 (C)(i) ~~Has had at least two (2) years of experience in~~
14 ~~psychology of a type considered by the board to be qualifying in nature with~~
15 ~~at least one (1) of those years being postdoctoral work~~ completed two (2)
16 years of supervised professional experience, one (1) year of which shall be
17 an internship program, and one (1) year of which shall be postdoctoral.

18 (ii) Both years of supervised experience shall:
19 (a) Be acceptable to the board; and
20 (b) Comply with the specific guidelines set
21 out in the board's rules;

22 (D) Is competent in psychology, as shown by passing
23 examinations, written or oral, or both, as the board deems necessary;

24 (E) Is not considered by the board to be engaged in
25 unethical practice;

26 (F) Has applied for a criminal background check and has
27 not been found guilty of or pleaded guilty or nolo contendere to any of the
28 offenses listed in § 17-97-312(f); ~~and~~

29 (G) Has not failed an examination given by the board
30 within the preceding six (6) months; and

31 (H) If he or she trained in institutions outside the
32 United States or Canada, demonstrate to the satisfaction of the board that he
33 or she possesses a doctoral degree in psychology the requirements for which
34 were substantially similar to the requirements for a doctoral degree in
35 professional psychology as defined in this chapter.

36 (2) The board may at its discretion accept satisfactory

1 substitute training and experience in lieu of that prescribed in subdivision
2 (b)(1) of this section.

3
4 SECTION 8. Arkansas Code § 17-97-303(a), concerning applications by
5 and qualifications of psychological examiners, is amended to read as follows:

6 (a) Any person wishing to obtain the right to practice as a
7 psychological examiner who has not heretofore been licensed to do so shall
8 make application before December 31, 2007, to the Arkansas Psychology Board
9 through the Chair of the Arkansas Psychology Board upon a form and in the
10 manner as shall be adopted and prescribed by the board and shall obtain from
11 the board a license to do so.

12
13 SECTION 9. Arkansas Code § 17-97-306 is amended to read as follows:
14 17-97-306. Reciprocity.

15 (a) At its discretion, the Arkansas Psychology Board may grant a
16 certificate without an assembled examination to any person residing or
17 employed in the state who:

18 (1) At the time of application is licensed or certified by a
19 similar board of another state whose standards, in the opinion of the ~~board~~
20 Arkansas Psychology Board, are not lower than those required by this chapter
21 or who has been practicing psychology in another state and has qualifications
22 not lower than those required by this chapter; and

23 (2) Is able to satisfy the ~~board~~ Arkansas Psychology Board that
24 to grant him or her a license would be in the public interest.

25 (b)(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a), the Arkansas
26 Psychology Board may issue a license to any individual who qualifies for a
27 license pursuant to an agreement of reciprocity entered into by the Arkansas
28 Psychology Board with the board of another jurisdiction or with the boards of
29 multiple jurisdictions.

30 (2) The Arkansas Psychology Board may issue a license to any
31 individual whose credentials have been approved from nationally recognized
32 bodies in psychology, including, but not limited to:

33 (A) The Association of State and Provincial Psychology
34 Board's through its Agreement of Reciprocity; and

35 (B) The National Register of Health Service Providers in
36 Psychology through its health service provider credentialing in psychology.

1
2 SECTION 10. Arkansas Code § 17-97-307(a), concerning use of
3 professional titles, is amended to read as follows:

4 (a) Except as otherwise provided ~~herein in this chapter~~, it is
5 specifically prohibited that any individual or organization, other than those
6 licensed ~~pursuant to~~ under this chapter, shall present himself or herself or
7 be presented as licensed to the public by any title incorporating the name
8 “psychological,” “psychologist,” or “psychology.”

9
10 SECTION 11. Arkansas Code Title 17, Chapter 97, Subchapter 3 is
11 amended to read as follows:

12 17-97-303 Licensure of psychology interns.

13 (a) A trainee in psychology may be licensed as a psychology intern if
14 the trainee:

15 (1) Has completed a master’s degree or the equivalent of a
16 master’s degree in psychology;

17 (2) Is participating in a formal, pre-doctoral psychology
18 internship that meets national criteria; and

19 (3) Is otherwise qualified by training, course work, and
20 supervised experiences.

21 (b)(1) Intern licensees shall be supervised by a licensed
22 psychologist.

23 (2) The supervising psychologist shall be qualified under
24 rules of the Arkansas Psychology Board to act as a supervisor in the
25 psychology intern’s training program.

26 (c) Psychology interns licensed under this section:

27 (1) Qualify for full practice privileges as licensed mental
28 health practitioners; and

29 (2) May:

30 (A) Be licensed for a two-year period; and

31 (B) In cases of hardship, renew the license for one (1)
32 additional year with board approval.

33 (d) Licensure under this section is:

34 (1) Contingent upon the trainee’s enrollment in a formal,
35 recognized training program in psychology at the graduate level; and

36 (2) Limited to activities within the formal pre-doctoral

1 internship.

2

3

4 SECTION 12. Arkansas Code Title 17 is amended to add an additional
5 chapter to read as follows:

6 Subchapter 1. General Provisions.

7 17-107-101. Legislative intent.

8 The General Assembly intends that;

9 (1) The provisions of this Act be in accordance with and
10 consistent with the Arkansas Medical Practices Act, § 17-95-201 - 207, 17-95-
11 301 - 305, and 17-95-401 - 411; and

12 (2) The practice of clinical psychotherapy as prescribed in this
13 chapter not infringe on the practice of medicine.

14

15 17-107-102. Definitions.

16 “Practice of clinical psychotherapy” means:

17 (1) The observation, description, evaluation, interpretation, or
18 modification of human behavior by a person who holds a master’s degree in
19 psychology or related degree and meets the requirements mandated by the
20 Arkansas Board of Clinical Psychotherapy and is trained in the application of
21 psychological principles, methods, or procedures rendered to individuals,
22 families, groups, organizations, institutions and the public whether or not
23 payment is received for services, for one (1) or more of the following
24 purposes:

25 (A) Preventing or eliminating symptomatic, maladaptive,
26 or undesired behavior;

27 (B) Enhancing interpersonal relationships, work and life
28 adjustment, personal effectiveness, behavioral health and mental health; and

29 (C) Consultation, teaching, and research; and

30 (2) Practices include, but are not limited to:

31 (A)(i) Psychological evaluation including psychological
32 testing and measuring consisting of the administration and interpretation of
33 objective tests measuring personal characteristics, including, but not
34 limited to, tests of:

35 (a) Intelligence;

36 (b) Personality;

1 (c) Abilities;
2 (d) Aptitudes;
3 (e) Achievements;
4 (f) Motives;
5 (g) Personality dynamics;
6 (h) Psychoeducational processes; and
7 (i) Other psychological attributes of
8 individuals or groups.

9 (B)(i) Diagnosis and treatment of mental, behavioral, and
10 emotional disorders consisting of the appropriate diagnosis of mental
11 disorders consistent with the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental
12 Disorders IV-TR, as it existed on January 1, 2005, and according to standards
13 of the profession and the ordering or providing of treatments according to
14 need.

15 (ii) Treatment includes, but is not limited to
16 providing:

17 (a) Counseling;
18 (b) Psychotherapy;
19 (c) Marital and family therapy;
20 (d) Group therapy;
21 (e) Behavior therapy;
22 (f) Hypnosis;
23 (g) Biofeedback;
24 (h) Other psychological interventions that aim
25 to modify and adjust perceptions, habits, or conduct; and
26 (i) The psychological aspects of physical
27 illness, pain, injury, or disability; and

28 (C) Psychological consulting including, but not limited to
29 providing:

30 (i) Interpreting and reporting on scientific theory
31 and research in psychology;
32 (ii) Rendering expert psychological opinion;
33 (iii) Evaluating and engaging in applied
34 psychological research;
35 (iv) Program and organizational development; and
36 (v) Administration, supervision, and evaluation of

1 psychological services.

2
3 17-107-103. Levels of practice of clinical psychotherapy.

4 There shall be two (2) levels of practice of clinical psychotherapy as
5 follows:

6 (1) A licensed associate clinical psychotherapist is a person
7 licensed by the Arkansas Board of Clinical Psychotherapy to provide
8 psychological services only under the supervision of a qualified supervisor
9 as dictated by rules set forth by the board; and

10 (2) A licensed clinical psychotherapist is a person licensed by
11 the Arkansas Board of Clinical Psychotherapy to independently provide
12 psychological services under the guidelines set forth and prescribed by the
13 rules of the board.

14
15 17-107-104. Exceptions generally.

16 (a) Nothing in this chapter prevents:

17 (1) The teaching of psychology, or the conduct of psychological
18 research by a licensed associate clinical psychotherapist, a licensed
19 clinical psychotherapist or other licensed or unlicensed professionals under
20 the laws of Arkansas, if the teaching or research without regard to the
21 source or extent of payment for services rendered does not involve the
22 delivery or supervision of direct services to individuals who are themselves,
23 rather than a third party, the intended beneficiaries of the services;

24 (2) The provision of expert testimony by licensed clinical
25 psychotherapists who are exempted by this chapter;

26 (3) Members of other professions licensed under the laws of
27 Arkansas from rendering services within the scope of practice as set out in
28 the laws regulating their professional practices, if they do not represent
29 themselves to be licensed associate clinical psychotherapists or licensed
30 clinical psychotherapists;

31 (4) Recognized members of the clergy from functioning in their
32 ministerial capacities, if they do not represent themselves to be licensed
33 associate clinical psychotherapists or licensed clinical psychotherapists, or
34 their services to be psychological services; or

35 (5) Students of psychology, psychological interns, psychological
36 residents, and others persons preparing for the profession of psychology and

1 clinical psychotherapy from performing as a part of their training the
2 functions of clinical psychotherapists as defined in this chapter and the
3 rules of the Arkansas Board of Clinical Psychotherapy.

4
5 17-107-105. Existing laws and rules regarding licensed psychological
6 examiners.

7 All state laws and state agency rules that authorize practice by
8 licensed psychological examiners shall be deemed to authorize practice by
9 licensed associate clinical psychotherapists and licensed clinical
10 psychotherapists.

11
12 17-107-106. Privileged communications.

13 (a) For purposes of this chapter, the confidential relations and
14 communications between a licensed clinical psychotherapist or licensed
15 associate clinical psychotherapist and a client shall be the same as those
16 provided by law between an attorney and a client.

17 (b) Nothing in this chapter may be construed to require any
18 communication privileged under this section to be disclosed.

19
20 Subchapter 2 – Arkansas Board of Clinical Psychotherapy.

21 17-107-201 Creation - Members.

22 (a)(1)(A) There is created the Arkansas Board of Clinical
23 Psychotherapy which shall consist of six (6) members who shall be appointed
24 by the Governor for terms of five (5) years.

25 (B) Appointments shall be for staggered terms so that no
26 more than one (1) position will expire in a given year.

27 (2) The Governor shall appoint:

28 (A) One (1) academic member engaged in full-time teaching
29 of psychology at an institution of higher learning approved by the Arkansas
30 Board of Clinical Psychotherapy.

31 (B) Four (4) practicing licensed clinical psychotherapist
32 members engaged in full-time practice with:

33 (i) At least one (1) member being engaged in full-
34 time, private practice; and

35 (ii) One (1) member employed full-time by a state-
36 funded agency or private non-profit mental health provider;

1 (C)(i) One (1) member to represent consumers appointed
2 from the state at large and subject to confirmation by the Senate.

3 (ii) The consumer representative shall:

4 (a) Be a full voting member but shall not vote
5 on or participate in the administration or grading of examinations of
6 applicants for licensure;

7 (b) Have resided in Arkansas for at least five
8 (5) years immediately preceding appointment;

9 (c) Never have been a psychologist, licensed
10 psychological examiner, licensed clinical psychotherapist, licensed
11 professional counselor, or licensed clinical social worker; and

12 (d) Not otherwise have conflicts with his or
13 her duties as a board member.

14 (b)(1) The Governor shall ensure that the professional members
15 appointed under this section reflect a diversity of practice specialties,
16 including but not limited to, clinical, psychology, health, and school
17 psychology.

18 (2) All positions shall be appointed from a list of nominees
19 provided by the Arkansas Association of Masters in Psychology, any other
20 interested organizations, and or from a list with at least twenty (20)
21 signatures of licensees by the Arkansas Board of Clinical Psychotherapy.

22 (c)(1) Each member appointed to the board under subdivisions (a)(2)(A)
23 and (B) of this section shall:

24 (A) Reside within the State of Arkansas;

25 (B) Hold a current valid license to practice clinical
26 psychotherapy; and

27 (C) Have been licensed by the Arkansas Psychology Board,
28 the Arkansas Board of Clinical Psychotherapy, or both to practice for at
29 least five (5) years immediately preceding his or her appointment to the
30 board.

31 (2) At the time of the appointment, each member appointed to the
32 board under subdivisions (a)(2)(A) and (B) of this section shall be free of
33 any conflict of interest and the appearance of any conflict with his or her
34 duties as a member of the board.

35 (3) A board member shall immediately submit a letter of
36 resignation to the Governor if the board member:

1 (A) Fails to maintain or no longer meets the
2 qualifications as outlined in this statute for board membership; or

3 (B) Pleads guilty or nolo contendere to, or is found guilty
4 of a felony or other unlawful act involving moral turpitude by a court of
5 competent jurisdiction.

6 (c)(1) At least thirty (30) days before the expiration of the term of
7 any board member, the Governor shall appoint a person to replace that board
8 member.

9 (2) If the Arkansas Association of Masters in Psychology, other
10 interested organizations, or licensed clinical psychotherapists choose to
11 submit nominees to the Governor, they shall do so no later than (40) days
12 before the expiration of a board member's term.

13 (d) The Governor shall fill all vacancies on the board within thirty
14 (30) days after the vacancy occurs.

15 (e) The Governor shall remove any member from the board if he or she:

16 (i) Ceases to be qualified;

17 (ii) Fails to attend three (3) successive board
18 meetings without just cause as determined by the board;

19 (iii) Is found to be in violation of this chapter;

20 (iv) Pleads guilty or nolo contendere to, or is
21 found guilty of a felony or other unlawful act involving moral turpitude by a
22 court of competent jurisdiction; or

23 (v) Pleads guilty or nolo contendere to, or is found
24 guilty of malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasance in relation to his or her
25 board duties by a court of competent jurisdiction.

26 (f) All vacancies occurring on the board by reason of resignation or
27 otherwise shall be filled by the Governor for the unexpired term, the
28 professional members from the list of qualified persons, within thirty (30)
29 days after the vacancy occurs.

30 (g)(1) Terms of each member shall expire on December 31 of the year in
31 which the term expires.

32 (h)(1) Immediately and before entering upon the duties of office, the
33 members of the board shall

34 (A) Take and subscribe to the constitutional oath of
35 office; and

36 (B) File the oath in the office of the Governor.

1 (2) Upon receiving the oath, the Governor shall issue to each
2 member a certificate of appointment.

3 (i) Members shall be eligible to receive reimbursement for mileage and
4 reimbursement for expenses in accordance with § 25-16-902.

5 (2) However, the reimbursements shall not exceed the fees
6 collected by the board.

7 (j) The Governor shall call the first meeting of the board within
8 sixty (60) days of the appoint of the members of the board.

9
10 17-107-202 Organization and proceedings.

11 (a) The Arkansas Board of Clinical Psychotherapy shall elect a chair,
12 a secretary, and a treasurer.

13 (b)(1) The board shall hold at least one (1) regular meeting each
14 year.

15 (2) Special meetings may be held at the discretion of the chair
16 or at the written request of any two (2) members of the board.

17 (c) A majority of the members of the board shall constitute a quorum.

18 (d)(1) The board shall adopt a seal.

19 (2) The seal shall be affixed to all certificates issued by the
20 board.

21 (e) There is established within the board the Joint Administrative
22 Oversight and Budget Committee.

23 (1)(A) Membership of the Joint Administrative Oversight and
24 Budget Committee shall be:

25 (i) The chair and treasurer of the Arkansas Psychology
26 Board; and

27 (ii) The chair and treasurer of the Arkansas Board of
28 Clinical Psychotherapy.

29 (2) Ad hoc members without voting privileges shall be the
30 administrative staff members employed by the Arkansas Board of Psychology and
31 the Arkansas Board of Clinical Psychotherapy.

32 (3) The Joint Administrative Oversight and Budget Committee
33 shall:

34 (A) Provide advice and recommendations to the Arkansas
35 Psychology Board and the Arkansas Board of Clinical Psychotherapy on matters
36 of administration and finance that relate to the generation of income,

1 general operations, and expenditures of monies by the two (2) boards; and

2 (B) Make decisions concerning personnel matters and
3 utilization of monies.

4
5 17-107-203. Powers and duties.

6 (a) The Arkansas Board of Clinical Psychotherapy may:

7 (1) Hire assistance as necessary to carry on its activities
8 within the limits of funds available to the board as directed by the Joint
9 Administrative Oversight and Budget Committee; and

10 (2) Accept grants from foundations or institutions; the monies
11 to be managed by the Joint Oversight and Budget Committee.

12 (b) The board shall:

13 (1) Examine and pass upon the qualifications of applicants for
14 the practice of clinical psychotherapy; and

15 (2)(A) Adopt a code of conduct consistent with national
16 standards set forth by the North American Association of Masters in
17 Psychology as they existed on January 1, 2005 to govern appropriate practices
18 and behavior for the practice of clinical psychotherapy.

19 (B) The board shall file the code with the Secretary of
20 State not less than thirty (30) days before the effective date of the code of
21 conduct.

22
23 17-107-204. Collection and disposition of fees.

24 (a) The Arkansas Board of Clinical Psychotherapy may establish and
25 collect fees and penalties for administrative services, including, but not
26 limited to:

27 (1) The issuance of temporary permits and other printed
28 materials;

29 (2) Handling returned checks;

30 (3) Costs incurred in processing delinquent payments; and

31 (4) Other reasonable services as the board may determine.

32 (b) The fees, along with other cash funds made available to the board,
33 shall be used to supplement the board with adequate income to provide for the
34 efficient and necessary operations of the board.

35 (c)(1) The board shall set fees and penalties in accordance with
36 recommendations from the Joint Oversight and Budget Committee.

1 (2) Fees and penalties shall be added to the amount collected by
2 the Arkansas Psychology Board for the joint operation of the two (2)
3 respective boards.

4
5 Subchapter 3. Licensing

6 17-107-301. Legislative intent.

7 The General Assembly intends that all licensed associate clinical
8 psychotherapists and licensed clinical psychotherapists conform to the
9 licensing requirements of this subchapter in order to protect the public
10 health and welfare by insuring competence in the delivery of services.

11
12 17-107-302. Penalties.

13 If any person practices as or hold himself or herself out to the public
14 as being licensed to engage in the practice of clinical psychotherapy, but
15 does not then possess a valid license to practice as a licensed associate
16 clinical psychotherapist or licensed clinical psychotherapist, he or she
17 shall be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not less than one
18 hundred dollars (\$100) nor more than five hundred dollars (\$500).

19
20 17-107-303. Licensed associate clinical psychotherapist --Application
21 - Qualifications.

22 (a) No person may practice as or hold himself or herself out as a
23 licensed associate clinical psychotherapist unless that person possesses a
24 valid license issued by the Arkansas Board of Clinical Psychotherapy.

25 (b)(1) A person who seeks to be licensed to practice as a licensed
26 associate clinical psychotherapist who has not previously been licensed to do
27 so shall apply to the board for licensure.

28 (2) The application shall be:

29 (A) Addressed to the chair of the board; and

30 (B) On a form and in the manner adopted by the board.

31 (c)(1) A candidate for licensure shall furnish the board with
32 satisfactory evidence that he or she:

33 (A) Is of good moral character;

34 (B) Has received a master's degree in psychology or
35 related field from a regionally accredited educational institution recognized
36 by the board as maintaining satisfactory standards;

1 (C) Has passed written or oral examinations, or both as
2 the board requires to show competence to practice as a licensed associate
3 clinical psychotherapist;

4 (D) Has not violated ethical rules promulgated by the
5 board;

6 (E) Has applied to the Identification Bureau of the
7 Department of Arkansas State Police for a state and national criminal
8 background check to be conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation;

9 (F) Has not been found guilty of or pleaded guilty or nolo
10 contendere to any of the offenses listed in §17-97-313; and

11 (G) Has not failed an examination given by the board within
12 the preceding six (6) months.

13 (d) The board shall promulgate rules regarding the qualifications,
14 restrictions, and reporting requirements of supervisors to implement the
15 intent of this chapter to avoid restricting the professional integrity of
16 licensed associate clinical psychotherapists.

17
18 17-107-304. Licensed clinical psychotherapist -- Application --
19 Qualifications.

20 (a) No person may practice as or hold himself or herself out as a
21 licensed clinical psychotherapist unless that person possesses a valid
22 license issued by the Arkansas Board of Clinical Psychotherapy.

23 (b)(1) A person who has been licensed for three (3) years or practiced
24 clinical psychotherapy for the full-time equivalent of three (3) years as a
25 licensed associate clinical psychotherapist may petition the Arkansas Board
26 of Clinical Psychotherapy to be licensed as a licensed clinical
27 psychotherapist with independent practice privileges.

28 (2)(A) The Arkansas Board of Clinical Psychotherapy shall
29 promulgate rules for granting petitions for licensure under subdivision
30 (b)(1) of this section.

31 (B) The rules shall be based upon experience, training,
32 and adherence to the rules of the Arkansas Board of Clinical Psychotherapy.

33 (3) Applications shall be accompanied by:

34 (A) Three (3) letters of reference as follows:

35 (i) One (1) letter shall be from the applicant's
36 current or most recent clinical supervisor;

1 (ii) One (1) letter shall attest to the applicant's
2 clinical competence; and

3 (iii) One (1) letter shall be a non-academic
4 character reference;

5 (B) A revised statement of intent to practice; and

6 (C) Other materials required by the Arkansas Board of
7 Clinical Psychotherapy.

8 (c)(1) After a review of all submitted documentation, the Arkansas
9 Board of Clinical Psychotherapy may issue a license to practice as a licensed
10 clinical psychotherapist.

11 (2)(A) However, the Arkansas Board of Clinical Psychotherapy may
12 decline to issue a license to practice as a licensed clinical psychotherapist
13 if the Arkansas Board of Clinical Psychotherapy finds that the applicant has
14 shown insufficient proficiency.

15 (B) If the Arkansas Board of Clinical Psychotherapy
16 declines to issue a license to practice as a licensed clinical
17 psychotherapist, the applicant shall continue to practice under a supervisor
18 approved by the Arkansas Board of Clinical Psychotherapy until the
19 deficiencies are corrected.

20 (d)(1) Upon request from the Arkansas Board of Clinical Psychotherapy,
21 the applicant shall furnish evidence that he or she:

22 (A) Is of good moral character;

23 (B) Has received a master's degree in psychology or a
24 related degree from a regionally accredited educational institution
25 recognized by the Arkansas Board of Clinical Psychotherapy as maintaining
26 satisfactory standards;

27 (C) Has passed such examinations written or oral or both
28 as required by the Arkansas Board of Clinical Psychotherapy to show competent
29 to practice as a licensed clinical psychotherapist;

30 (D) Has not violated ethical rules promulgated by the
31 Arkansas Board of Clinical Psychotherapy;

32 (E) Has applied to the Identification Bureau of the
33 Department of Arkansas State Police for a state and national criminal
34 background check to be conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation; and

35 (E) Has not been found guilty of or pleaded guilty or nolo
36 contendere to any of the offenses listed in §17-97-313; and

1 (F) Has not failed an examination given by the Arkansas
2 Board of Clinical Psychotherapy within the preceding six (6) months.

3 (e)(1) A person who has been licensed as a psychological examiner for
4 at least three (3) years is immediately eligible to apply for licensure as a
5 licensed clinical psychotherapist with independent practice privileges.

6 (2) The Arkansas Board of Clinical Psychotherapy may grant the
7 applicant independent practice privileges after consideration and evaluation
8 of the applicant's previous statement of intent, experience, training, and
9 adherence to rules of the Arkansas Board of Clinical Psychotherapy.

10 (3)(A) A persons who was granted independent practice privileges
11 by the Arkansas Psychology Board as indicated by statement of dated before
12 December 31, 2005, shall be deemed a licensed clinical psychotherapist with
13 independent practice privileges by the Arkansas Board of Clinical
14 Psychotherapy.

15 (B) Individuals granted practice privileges for
16 neuropsychology and projective personality assessment as indicated by the
17 statement of intent and approved by the Arkansas Psychology Board before
18 October 1, 2004, shall be authorized by the Arkansas Board of Clinical
19 Psychotherapy to continue those practice privileges under the supervision
20 indicated by the statement of intent as licensed clinical psychotherapists or
21 licensed associate clinical psychotherapists approved by the Arkansas
22 Psychology Board before October 2004.

23 (C) No other privileges under this chapter may be granted
24 to persons granted privileges under subdivisions (e)(3)(A) or (e)(3)(B) of
25 this section.

26
27 17-107-305. Examinations.

28 (a)(1)(A) The Arkansas Board of Clinical Psychotherapy shall
29 promulgate rules for examinations for licensure to practice as a licensed
30 associate clinical psychotherapist.

31 (B) The examination shall include, but not be limited to:

32 (i) Subject matter in the filed of clinical
33 psychotherapy;

34 (ii) Methods of practice of clinical psychotherapy;

35 (iii) Basic psychological sciences; and

36 (iv) Ethics in the practice of clinical

1 psychotherapy.

2 (2) The examinations shall be offered at least one (1) time each
3 year.

4 (3)(A) The examinations may be written, oral, or both.

5 (B) In any written examination, the applicant shall be
6 designated by a number rather than by his or her name so that his or her
7 identity will not be available to the members of the board until the
8 examination has been scored.

9 (4) The board shall:

10 (A) Grade the written examinations returned by the
11 candidate; and (B) Retain the written examinations for a
12 least one (1) year.

13 (b) A candidate shall have passed the examination upon the affirmative
14 vote of three (3) or more members of the board.

15 (c) Upon written request to the board, any unsuccessful candidate may
16 see the candidate's own graded examination.

17
18 17-107-306. Issuance.

19 (a)(1) The Arkansas Board of Clinical Psychotherapy shall be the sole
20 agency empowered to:

21 (A) Examine candidates concerning competence as a licensed
22 clinical psychotherapist or licensed associate clinical psychotherapist; and

23 (B) Grant licenses for the practice of clinical
24 psychotherapy at the appropriate level.

25 (2)(A) The license shall be signed by the Chair of the Arkansas
26 Board of Clinical Psychotherapy and attested by the Secretary of the Arkansas
27 Board of Clinical Psychotherapy under the seal of the board.

28 (B) After the license is signed and attested to and the
29 seal attached as required in subdivision (a)(2)(B) of this section, the
30 secretary shall issue the license.

31 (b)(1) The board shall issue a provisional license to an applicant who
32 has:

33 (A) Passed the examinations prescribed by the board for
34 provisional licensure;

35 (B) Satisfied the preliminary requirements of §§ 17-107-
36 303 and 17-107-304; and

1 (C) Paid the fee for a provisional license.

2 (2) A provisional license holder is entitled to practice as a
3 licensed associate clinical psychotherapist under the supervision of a
4 qualified supervisor approved by the board.

5 (3) The board shall adopt rules concerning provisional license
6 holders that identify:

7 (A) The activities that provisional license holders may
8 engage in; and

9 (B) Services that may be provided by provisional license
10 holders.

11 (4) The board may refuse to renew the provisional license of a
12 person who does not meet the requirements prescribed by law and rules
13 promulgated by the board.

14 (c)(1) An applicant for examination for a provisional license shall:

15 (A) Apply on forms prescribed by the board; and

16 (B) Submit the required fees with the application.

17 (2) The board may require that the applicant verify the
18 application.

19 (d) An applicant may take an examination for a provisional license if
20 the applicant:

21 (1)(A) Has received a master's degree in psychology or a related
22 field from a regionally accredited educational institution.

23 (B) In determining whether a degree is substantially
24 equivalent to the requirements for licensure, the board shall consider
25 whether at the time the degree was conferred the graduate program met the
26 prevailing standards for training in the area of psychology;

27 (2) Has attained the age of majority;

28 (3) Has good moral character;

29 (4) Is physically and mentally competent to provide
30 psychological services with reasonable skill and safety, as determined by the
31 board;

32 (5) Is not afflicted with a mental or physical disease or
33 condition that would impair the applicant's competence to provide
34 psychological services;

35 (6) Has not been plead guilty or pleads guilty or nolo
36 contendere to, or is found guilty of contendere to or been found guilty of a

1 crime involving moral turpitude or a felony;

2 (7) Does not use drugs or alcohol to an extent that affects the
3 applicant's professional competence;

4 (8) Has not engaged in fraud or deceit in making the
5 application; and

6 (9) Has not:

7 (A) Aided or abetted the practice of clinical
8 psychotherapy by a person not licensed under this chapter in representing
9 that the person is licensed under this chapter;

10 (B) Represented that the applicant is licensed under this
11 chapter to practice clinical psychotherapy when the applicant is not
12 licensed; or

13 (C) Practiced clinical psychotherapy in this state without
14 a license under this chapter or without being exempt under this chapter.

15
16 17-107-307. Reciprocity.

17 At its discretion, the Arkansas Board of Clinical Psychotherapy may
18 grant a certificate without an assembled examination to any person residing
19 or employed in the state who:

20 (1)(A) At the time of application is licensed or certified by a
21 similar board of another state whose standards in the opinion of the board
22 are not lower than those required by this chapter; or

23 (B) Has been practicing psychology or related clinical
24 services in another state that has qualifications the board has determined to
25 be not lower than those required by this chapter; and

26 (2) Satisfies the board that to grant him or her a license
27 would:

28 (A) Be in the public interest; and

29 (B) Meet the requirements of the rules promulgated by the
30 board.

31
32 17-107-308. Professional titles.

33 (a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, no individual or
34 organization, other than those licensed under this chapter, may present
35 himself, herself, or itself to the public or allow himself, herself, or
36 itself to be presented to the public by any title incorporating the name

1 “Licensed Associate Clinical Psychotherapist” or “Licensed Clinical
2 Psychotherapist”.

3 (b)(1)(A) Any psychological scientist employed by a research
4 laboratory, college, or university recognized by the Arkansas Board of
5 Clinical Psychotherapy may represent himself or herself by the academic or
6 research title conferred upon him or her by the administration of the
7 laboratory, college, or university.

8 (B) This section does not permit a psychological scientist
9 employed by a research laboratory, college, or university recognized by the
10 board to offer services to any other persons or organizations as consultants
11 or to accept remuneration for any licensed clinical psychotherapy services
12 other than his or her institutional salaries unless he or she has been
13 licensed under this chapter.

14 (2) A visiting lecturer from a laboratory, college, or
15 university recognized by the board is exempt from the provisions of this
16 section and may represent himself or herself by the academic or research
17 title conferred upon him or her by the administration of the laboratory,
18 college, or university when presenting lectures to similar institutions or
19 organizations.

20 (3) Students of psychology, psychological interns, and other
21 persons preparing for the profession of psychologist or licensed associate
22 clinical psychotherapist under qualified supervision in recognized training
23 institutions or facilities may use such titles as “psychological intern,”
24 “psychological trainee,” or other titles approved by the board that clearly
25 indicate such a training status.

26 (4)(A) A person who has been certified as a school psychology
27 specialist by the Department of Education may use the title “School
28 Psychology Specialist.”

29 (B) A person who uses the title “School Psychology
30 Specialist” may only practice within settings under the purview of the State
31 Board of Education.

32 (c) Nothing in this chapter precludes the practice of psychotherapy by
33 licensed social workers, licensed professional counselors, licensed marriage
34 and family therapists, or other advanced licensed practitioners.

35
36 17-107-309. Annual registration – Failure to reregister.

1 (a)(1) The Arkansas Board of Clinical Psychotherapy may adopt and
2 enforce rules requiring each person licensed by the board to pay an annual
3 registration fee.

4 (2) The board shall set the fee as recommended by the Joint
5 Oversight and Budget Committee.

6 (b) The board shall set the due date for the fee as recommended by the
7 Joint Oversight and Budget Committee.

8 (c)(1) The board shall suspend the right of any person licensed by the
9 board if the person fails to timely pay the annual registration fee.

10 (2) The suspension shall continue until the person pays the fee
11 and any penalty the board may by rule adopt.

12 (d)(1) If any licensee fails for three (3) consecutive years to pay
13 the fee, the board shall, without hearing or notice, cancel his or her
14 license subject to reinstatement.

15 (2) If application for reinstatement is made, the board shall
16 consider the moral character and professional qualifications of the applicant
17 as in the case of an original application.

18 (e)(1)(A) A person licensed by the board shall participate in forty
19 (40) hours of continuing education each biennium.

20 (B) The board shall not consider an application for annual
21 renewal of a license if the applicant does not supply evidence acceptable to
22 the board of forty (40) hours of continuing education for the previous
23 biennium.

24 (f)(1) All programs of continuing education shall be subject to the
25 approval of the board.

26 (2) The board may establish:

27 (A) Minimum standards and requirements for continuing
28 education programs for licensees;

29 (B) Procedures and policies for administering continuing
30 education programs; and

31 (C) The manner and conditions under which credit may be
32 granted for participation in continuing education programs.

33
34 17-107-310. Fees.

35 (a)(1) The fees authorized under § 17-107-309 shall be paid to the
36 Chair of the Arkansas Board of Clinical Psychotherapy by each applicant for a

1 permanent license.

2 (2) An additional fee to be determined by the Joint Oversight
3 and Budget Committee shall be paid as deemed necessary to defray the cost of
4 acquiring and administering the examination test and related expenses in
5 connection with those costs.

6 (b) An additional fee set by the Joint Oversight and Budget Committee
7 shall be paid to the Chair of the Arkansas Board of Clinical Psychotherapy
8 when the initial license is issued.

9 (c)(1) No part of any fee shall be returnable under any circumstances
10 other than failure of the board to hold examinations at the time originally
11 announced.

12 (2) If the board fails to hold examinations at the time
13 originally announced, the entire fee may be returned at the option of the
14 candidate.

15
16 17-107-311. Denial, suspension, revocation, fine, letter of reprimand,
17 or additional education – Grounds – Reinstatement.

18 (a) The Arkansas Board of Clinical Psychotherapy may:

19 (1) May refuse to grant a license or may suspend or revoke any
20 license for a period to be determined by the board;

21 (2) Impose a fine of up to five thousand dollars (\$5,000);

22 (3) Issue a letter of reprimand; and

23 (4) Require additional hours of education for a licensee.

24 (b) The sanctions authorized in subsection (a) of this section may be
25 imposed on the following grounds:

26 (1) Fraud or deception in applying for a license or in passing
27 the examination provided for this chapter;

28 (2) The practice of clinical psychotherapy under a false or
29 assumed name or the impersonation of another practitioner of a like or
30 different name;

31 (3) Habitual intemperance in the use of alcohol, narcotics, or
32 stimulants to such an extent as to incapacitate the licensee or applicant for
33 the performance of his or her duties;

34 (4) Violation of the Arkansas Medical Practices Act §§ 17-95-201
35 et seq., 17-95-301 et seq., 17-95-401 et seq. and § 17-97-101 through § 17-
36 97-312;

1 (5) Practice of a level of clinical psychotherapy inappropriate
2 to the particular license held by the licensee;

3 (6) Negligence or wrongful actions in the performance of his or
4 her duties; or

5 (7) Violation of any rule of the board including the rules of
6 ethics adopted by the board.

7 (c) The board shall refuse to issue a license to or shall revoke the
8 license of any person who has been found guilty of or pleaded guilty or nolo
9 contendere to any of the offenses listed in § 17-107-313(f) unless the person
10 requests and the board grants a waiver pursuant to § 17-107-313(h).

11 (d)(1) If the board receives satisfactory proof that any applicant or
12 licensee has been found guilty of or pleaded guilty or nolo contendere to any
13 of the offenses listed in subsection (b) of this section, the board may
14 refuse to grant a certificate to the applicant or may revoke a license of the
15 licensee upon a vote of three (3) or more members of the board.

16 (2) An application for reinstatement may be made to the board
17 and the board may upon favorable vote by three (3) of its members reinstate
18 the applicant.

19
20 17-107-312. Denial, suspension, revocation, other penalty -
21 Proceedings.

22 (a)(1)(A) The Arkansas Board of Clinical Psychotherapy may investigate
23 or cause to be investigated any allegation or evidence that appears to show
24 that a person:

25 (i) Is practicing clinical psychotherapy without a
26 license; or

27 (ii) Is licensed to practice in Arkansas and anyone
28 under his or her supervision is or may be in violation of this chapter or of
29 any of the rules adopted by the board.

30 (B) The board shall adopt rules to ensure that:

31 (i) Any individual selected by the board to conduct
32 an investigation does not have a conflict of interest that would disqualify
33 the individual from being an impartial investigator in the matter being
34 investigated; and

35 (ii) Any investigation of a respondent in an
36 investigated matter involves the input of an advisor who possesses

1 qualification, experience, or both substantially comparable to or greater
2 than that of the investigated respondent.

3 (2) The board may not recommend suspension, revocation, or any
4 other penalty described in § 17-107-311 affecting a certificate or license or
5 refuse to issue or to renew any certificate for any cause listed in this
6 chapter unless the person accused has been given;

7 (A)(i) At least twenty (20) days' notice in writing by
8 registered mail with return receipt demanded of the charges against the
9 person.

10 (ii) The written notice shall be mailed to the
11 person's last known address; and

12 (B)(i) An opportunity for a public hearing by the board.

13 (ii) The nonappearance of the person shall not
14 prevent such a hearing.

15 (b) At the hearing the board may administer an oath and procure by its
16 subpoenas the attendance of witnesses and the production of relevant books,
17 papers and other relevant materials, including, but not limited to,
18 electronic data and communications.

19 (c) Any action of, or ruling or order made or entered by, the board
20 declining to issue a certificate, declining to recommend licensure, or
21 recommending suspension, revocation, or other penalty described in § 17-107-
22 311 that affects a certificate or license shall be subject to review by the
23 courts of this state in the same manner and subject to the same powers and
24 conditions that are now provided by law in regard to rulings, orders, and
25 findings of other quasi-judicial bodies in Arkansas where not otherwise
26 specifically provided.

27
28 17-107-313. Criminal background checks.

29 (a) Each first-time applicant for a license issued by the Arkansas
30 Board of Clinical Psychotherapy shall apply to the Identification Bureau of
31 the Department of Arkansas State Police for a state and national criminal
32 background check to be conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

33 (b) The check shall conform to the applicable federal standards and
34 shall include the taking of fingerprints.

35 (c) The applicant shall sign a release of information to the board and
36 shall be responsible to the Department of Arkansas State Police for the

1 payment of any fee associated with the criminal background check.

2 (d) Upon completion of the criminal background check, the
3 Identification Bureau of the Department of Arkansas State Police shall
4 forward to the board all information obtained concerning the applicant in the
5 commission of any offense listed in subsection (f) of this section.

6 (e) At the conclusion of any background check required by this
7 section, the Identification Bureau of the Department of Arkansas State Police
8 shall promptly destroy the fingerprint card of the applicant.

9 (f) No person shall be eligible to receive or hold a license issued by
10 the board if that person has pleaded guilty or nolo contendere to, or been
11 found guilty of, any of the following offenses by any court in the State of
12 Arkansas or of any similar offense by a court in another state or of any
13 similar offense by a federal court:

14 (1) Capital murder, as prohibited in § 5-10-101;

15 (2) Murder in the first degree and second degree, as prohibited
16 in § 5-10-102 and 5-10-103;

17 (3) Manslaughter, as prohibited in § 5-10-104;

18 (4) Negligent homicide, as prohibited in § 5-10-105;

19 (5) Kidnapping, as prohibited in § 5-11-102;

20 (6) False imprisonment in the first degree, as prohibited in §
21 5-11-103;

22 (7) Permanent detention or restraint, as prohibited in § 5-11-
23 106;

24 (8) Robbery, as prohibited in § 5-12-102;

25 (9) Aggravated robbery, as prohibited in § 5-12-103;

26 (10) Battery in the first degree, as prohibited in § 5-13-201;

27 (11) Aggravated assault, as prohibited in § 5-13-204;

28 (12) Introduction of controlled substance into body of another
29 person, as prohibited in § 5-13-210;

30 (13) Terroristic threatening in the first degree, as prohibited
31 in § 5-13-301;

32 (14) Rape, as prohibited in § 5-14-103;

33 (15) Sexual indecency with a child, as prohibited in § 5-14-110;

34 (16) Sexual assault in the first degree, second degree, third
35 degree, and fourth degree, as prohibited in §§ 5-14-124 - 5-14-127;

36 (17) Incest, as prohibited in § 5-26-202;

1 (18) Offenses against the family, as prohibited in §§ 5-26-303 -
2 5-26-306;

3 (19) Endangering the welfare of an incompetent person in the
4 first degree, as prohibited in § 5-27-201;

5 (20) Endangering the welfare of a minor in the first degree, as
6 prohibited in §§ 5-27-203;

7 (21) Permitting abuse of a child, as prohibited in §§ 5-27-
8 221(a)(1) and (3);

9 (22) Engaging children in sexually explicit conduct for use in
10 visual or print media, transportation of minors for prohibited sexual
11 conduct, pandering or possessing visual or print medium depicting sexually
12 explicit conduct involving a child, or use of a child or consent to use of a
13 child in a sexual performance by producing, directing, or promoting a sexual
14 performance by a child, as prohibited in §§ 5-27-303 - 5-27-305, 5-27-402,
15 and 5-27-403;

16 (23) Felony adult abuse, as prohibited in § 5-28-103;

17 (24) Theft of property, as prohibited in § 5-36-103;

18 (25) Theft by receiving, as prohibited in § 5-36-106;

19 (26) Arson, as prohibited in § 5-38-301;

20 (27) Burglary, as prohibited in § 5-39-201;

21 (28) Felony violation of the Uniform Controlled Substances Act,
22 §§ 5-64-101 - 5-64-608, as prohibited in § 5-64-401;

23 (29) Promotion of prostitution in the first degree, as
24 prohibited in § 5-70-104;

25 (30) Stalking, as prohibited in § 5-71-229;

26 (31) Criminal attempt, criminal complicity, criminal
27 solicitation, or criminal conspiracy, as prohibited in §§ 5-3-201, 5-3-202,
28 5-3-301, and 5-3-401, to commit any of the offenses listed in this
29 subsection;

30 (32) Computer child pornography, as prohibited in § 5-27-603;
31 and

32 (33) Computer exploitation of a child in the first degree, as
33 prohibited in § 5-27-605.

34 (g)(1) The board may issue a six-month nonrenewable letter of
35 provisional eligibility for licensure to a first-time applicant pending the
36 results of the criminal background check.

1 (2) Upon receipt of information from the Identification Bureau
2 of the Department of Arkansas State Police that the person holding a letter
3 of provisional licensure has pleaded guilty or nolo contendere to, or been
4 found guilty of, any offense listed in subsection (f) of this section, the
5 board shall immediately revoke the provisional license.

6 (h)(1) The provisions of subsection (f) and subdivision (g)(2) of this
7 section may be waived by the board upon the request of:

8 (A) An affected applicant for licensure; or

9 (B) A person holding a license subject to revocation.

10 (2) Circumstances for which a waiver may be granted shall
11 include, but not be limited to, the following:

12 (A) The age at which the crime was committed;

13 (B) The circumstances surrounding the crime;

14 (C) The length of time since the crime;

15 (D) Subsequent work history;

16 (E) Employment references;

17 (F) Character references; and

18
19 (G) Other evidence demonstrating that the applicant does
20 not pose a threat to the health or safety of children.

21 (i)(1) Any information received by the board from the Identification
22 Bureau of the Department of Arkansas State Police under this section shall
23 not be available for examination except by the affected applicant for
24 licensure or his or her authorized representative or the person whose license
25 is subject to revocation, or his or her authorized representative.

26 (2) No record, file, or document shall be removed from the
27 custody of the department.

28 (j) Any information made available to the affected applicant for
29 licensure or the person whose license is subject to revocation shall be
30 information pertaining to that person only.

31 (k) Rights of privilege and confidentiality established in this
32 section shall not extend to any document created for purposes other than this
33 background check.

34 (l) The board shall adopt the necessary rules to fully implement the
35 provisions of this section.

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17-9-107-314. Application.
Nothing in this chapter shall be construed as permitting the practice
of clinical psychotherapy to infringe on the practice of medicine as defined
by the Arkansas Medical Practices Act, §§ 17-95-201, et seq., 17-95-301 et
seq., 17-95-401 et seq. and 17-97-101 et seq.

/s/ Bradford